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humbly ask if it is proper to desire the governour to give us an attestation & pasport to witness that we are inhabitants here, the Burgesses from Spotsylvania County know that we are by the rest of our Countrymen sent in that behalf.

Wee who are to go out our names are Michial Cooch, Zerahus Flishman.

THE ACADIANS IN VIRGINIA.

(From a copy of the proceedings in Council—Virginia Archives.)

At a Council held Novem^r 13, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Governor, John Blair, Philip Grymes, Philip Ludwell, Esq., Mr. Commissary, William Byrd, Esq.

His Honour communicated to the Board a letter from the Governor of Nova Scotia dated from Halifax the 11th of August, signifying that by advice of His Majesty's Council it is judged a necessary, and the only practicable measure, to rid themselves of the neutral French there, to divide them among the Colonies, where they may be of some use, and possibly in time become faithful subjects. With a Letter from Mr. Balfour at Hampton, advising of the arrival of two vessels with about 390 of the said French, and that four sail more are hourly expected, who, it is presumed, will bring in upwards of six hundred more.

Upon which the governor desiring the opinion and advice of the Board, in what manner it would be most adviseable to dispose of, and divide them through the several counties, and how they could be subsisted. It was the advice of the Board that his Honor would defer the consideration of so important an Incident till a fuller Council could be assembled. Whereupon the governor acquainted them he would order the Council to be summoned to meet on Thursday next to deliberate upon and determine an affair of such great consequence to this Country.

Copy—Teste:

N. WALTHOE, Cl. Con.

At a Council held Novem^r 20th, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Governor, John Blair, Philip Grymes, Peter Randolph, Philip Ludwell, Esq^r, Mr. Commissary, William Byrd, Esq.

The Letter from Governor Lawrence was again read with an account of the number of French Neutrals now arrived in Hampton Road from the Bay of Fundy, which was produced by his Honour, who desired the Council maturely to deliberate on this momentous affair, and advise him what measures it would be most prudent for him to pursue. Upon which it was the advice of the Council that his Honor would be pleased to postpone the determination of this affair, till some proper Persons were sent down to Enquire particularly into the number of Families these people consisted of, and into their circumstances, also to learn whether they were willing to take the oath of Allegiance to his Majesty without any Reservation, would conform themselves to the Laws of this Country, and not transgress the limits assigned them without the Governor's permission.

Whereupon it was proposed to Philip Ludwell, Esq., and the Commissary to visit these French, to make such Inquiry and put such Proposals to them, who readily accepted thereof.

Copy—Teste:

N. WALTHOE, Cl. Con.

At a Council held Nov^r 22d, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Governor, John Blair, Thomas Nelson, Philip Grymes, Peter Randolph, Philip Ludwell, Mr. Commissary, William Byrd, Esq.

Philip Ludwell, Esq^r, reported that he with Mr. Commissary appointed to visit the Vessels arrived from Nova Scotia with the Neutral French had been on bord of four sloops and one schooner, and inquired particularly into the number and circumstances of the said Neutral French, an account whereof he presented at the Board; with a Paper signed by the said French importing their submission and adherence to His Majesty and promising fidelity to him. Whereupon it was the opinion and advice of the Board

that the said People be landed disposed of and subsisted as follows, viz: That one of the said vessels be ordered to Richmond at the Falls of James River, that the French on board two of the said vessels be landed at Hampton; and that the other two be sent to Norfolk. That Mr. Balfour at Hampton and Mr. Stewart at Norfolk be appointed and directed to provide Houses for them; that they be allowed 4^{lb} of flour and 2^{lb} of beef, or pork per week each person, that the said Mr. Balfour and Mr. Stewart be ordered to supply them regularly with that allowance and to see that they behave themselves in an orderly manner.

Copy—Teste:

N. WALTHOE, Cl. Con.

Report concerning the Neutral French & proceedings thereon in Council, 22 Nov', 1755.

[Like most of the English Colonies in North America, Virginia had a part in the melancholy story of the Acadians. A small part is true; but one which has been so grossly misrepresented by a recent writer, that an opportunity to correct his statements is welcome. The expulsion, in 1755, of the Acadians—the Neutral French as they were called at the time—from their homes in Nova Scotia by the command of the English authorities is familiar history; made better known by "Evangeline." About the middle of November, 1755, several vessels, despatched by Governor Lawrence of Nova Scotia, and containing 1,140 of these exiles arrived in Hampton Roads. There had been no notice of their coming; but as has been seen, the Governor and Council of Virginia took prompt action. The letters of Governor Dinwiddie, in the "Dinwiddie Papers," published by the Virginia Historical Society, contain frequent reference to this subject. The Governor states that the arrival of 1140 French Neutrals, sent without warning by Governor Lawrence of Nova Scotia had caused great discontent among the people of Virginia, where there were no Roman Catholics. He had much difficulty in inducing the Council to receive them, and only carried it by one vote. M. Edouard Richard (a gentleman who appears to think that he alone takes a just and correct view of this part of American history and that Parkman and everybody else is in the wrong) says in his

recent work on Acadia, that the Virginians refused to allow the 1500 [really 1140] exiles to land, and that "neither disease, which was making frightful havoc among this crowd of human beings huddled together in the holds of the dreadfully overladen ships, nor any other considerations" could induce the Virginians to change their determination. "They (the Virginians) addressed to the authorities such vigorous protests that all these exiles, after being several weeks on board the vessels, were told to set sail for England." The fact is, that the Acadians arrived in Virginia about the middle of November, 1755, and were probably sent to England some time in April or May, 1756, and it is evident from the proceedings in the case that they were not confined to ships; but spent this time on shore. On March 29, 1756, the House of Burgesses petitioned Governor Dinwiddie to have the Neutral French sent to Great Britain, stating that the Assembly would bear the expense. The Governor replied that he would carry out their wishes, and asked that they appoint persons to "make provision for their subsistence, from this time till their embarkation," and that "those gentlemen may agree for proper vessels to transport them." The Assembly passed an act appropriating £5000, and appointing a committee, consisting of Peyton Randolph and others on behalf of the Assembly, to contract with persons to transport the Neutral French to Great Britain. So it is evident that these unfortunate exiles were not confined to the ships they came in, but were on shore for five or six months, and were sent away on different ships from those they came in. Plainly, in one instance, at least M. Richard is mistaken.]

JACOBITISM IN VIRGINIA.

CHARGES AGAINST CAPTAIN JACOB LUMPKIN.

(From Virginia Archives.)

New Kent—At a Court held Septem^r 29th, 1690, At Mr. Tunstall's.

Gents—Coll. John West, Capt. Roger Malory, Mr. Thom.